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ISSN 0353-295X (Tisak) 1849-0344 (Online)
 Radovi - Zavod za hrvatsku povijest
 Vol. 50, br. 2, Zagreb 2018

UDK 94(450.7=16)„1553“(093)
 351.755.3(450.7=16)„1553“(093)
 Professional publication of sources
 Primljeno: 13. 9. 2018.
 Prihvaćeno: 13. 9. 2018.
 DOI: 10.17234/RadoviZHP.50.19

Slavic (*schiaconi*) households in some towns in Northern Terra di Bari in 1553

Relationships between the two coasts of the Adriatic Sea date to the prehistoric period, but they intensified during the Middle Ages, first with the Byzantine Empire and later due to the Ottoman threat: the Battle of Kosovo Polje in 1389 and the conquest of Constantinople in 1453 forced some people of the Balkans (Slavs, Greeks, Albanians) to leave their countries and emigrate to the Kingdom of Naples. There are many reports about the *schiaconi*, as Slavic people were called, in some centres north of Bari such as Molfetta, Giovinazzo (both maritime towns), Terlizzi, Bitonto and Ruvo di Puglia (towns in the interior on the ancient via Traiana). Molfetta concluded a trading agreement with Ragusa (Dubrovnik) in 1148 and from 1250 there was a neighbourhood called *Sevenicus* (*vicinia que dicitur Sevenicus*) occupied by people from Šibenik who founded the church of St. Peter; in 1417 it was still recorded as *vicinia Scibinici*. In Giovinazzo a Slavic community was surly established at the beginning of the 15th century when in 1419 *Ghionnus Sclavonus* rented a house. A land known as *lama sclavorum* or *lama de sclavis* was mentioned in several charters of Terlizzi dating from 1153 to 1362, maybe a plot of land owned by Slavic people living in this centre. In Bitonto a numerous community was recorded in the second half of the 14th century, while in Ruvo di Puglia the Slavic community lived near a city gate called in medieval documents (since 1368) *Porta Slavorum* (gate of the Slavs); probably they had a neighbourhood that gave that name to the gate. Traces of *schiaconi* also emerge from other sources such as the *Matricula maioris ecclesie rubensis*, an obituary of the Cathedral of Ruvo dated in the 13th-14th centuries; among the benefactors and donors there is a woman called *Radosta sclava*; she was a servant girl (*ancilla*) of a judge, and her name refers to the Serbo-Croatian term *radost*. The same source also mentions personal names of Slavic origin such as *Bullarina* (corrupted form of *Boliarina*) or *Boia* (corrupted form of *Bolia*).

Some fiscal documents (*registri dei fuochi*, hearth tax registers) contain the list of Slavic households living 1553 in the aforementioned towns. The transcription of this list is presented below and it will be the basis for further study. There are

about 120 people, in 37 hearths; the widest community is the one in Bitonto (19 families and 75 people), while the smallest was in Ruvo di Puglia (2 families and 6 people). For each hearth the list registers the head of the family, his wife, sons and daughters, and sometimes the mother of the head of the family was living with them, as well as their age; most of the heads of the family are young (30-40 years), but there are also some elderly ones over 50 years. For some of them the region of origin on the other side of the Adriatic was recorded: *Splalatro* (Split), *Catara* (Kotor), *Montenegro*, *Scibenico* (Šibenik) and *Ragusa* (Dubrovnik). It seems that some of them relocated from other towns of Terra di Bari as Gioia del Colle or Bisceglie. Almost all the Slavs did not own anything of fiscal importance, and this fact was recorded by the phrase *nihil possidet*. Nothing is reported about their profession, only one head of the family was recorded as a shepherd. However, from other sources we know that *schiaconi* were often artisans and bakers, and some were still servants living in the households of their employers. They were owners of real estate, such as two men from Ruvo, *Theodorus schlavone* whose house is mentioned in 1542 or *Marcus Sclavus*, a servant (*mancipium*) who achieved the emphyteutic lease of a land plot to cultivate in 1470.

Archive: Archivio di Stato di Napoli, R. Camera della Sommaria, Patrimonio, Numerazione dei Fuochi (frammenti), busta n. 276, ff. 15r-18r.

List of Slavic households living in Ruvo di Puglia, Terlizzi, Molfetta, Giovinazzo, Bitonto in 1553.

Die 4° ditti applicavj in Civi(ta)te Ruborum

Rubo

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Radicchius sca(vonus) a. 40 nihil possidet
Andrucha u(xo)r a. 38
Io(hann)es fi(liu)s a. 20 |
| 2 | Boscus sca(vonus) a. 45 nihil possidet
Iulia u(xo)r a. 40
Pantateus fi(liu)s a. 17 |

Remanet preditti f(ocolari)bus 2

Die v° ditti applicavj in T(er)ra Terlitij
Ubj vacavj vi° ditti:

Terlizo

- 1 Jo(hann)es de Archadia sca(vonus) a. 55 nihil possidet
Lucia u(xo)r a. 50
Yela fi(li)a a. 18
Clara fi(li)a a. 14
- 2 Matteus de Spalatro sca(vonus) a. 50 nihil possidet
Taduxa u(xo)r a. 45
Marcus fi(liu)s a. 22
Iurus fi(liu)s a. 20
- 3 Boscus de Archadia sca(vonus) a. 35 nihil possidet
Stoja u(xo)r a. 32
Yela m(ate)r a. 50
- 4 Damianus de Archadia sca(vonus) a. 50 nihil possidet
Biancha u(xo)r a. 46
Marcus fi(liu)s a. 14
- 5 Bar(tholom)eus sca(vonus) a. 35 solus et nihil possidet
sine uxore

Remanet predittis f(ocolari)bus 5

Die viiii^o ditti applicavj in Civi(ta)te Iovenatij

Iovenaczo

- 1 Io(hanne)s Ang(elu)s f(iliu)s q(u)o(ndam) Palmiotti alb(anenis)
a. 28 possidet domus et vineas
Rosa u(xo)r a. 22
Margarita m(ate)r a. 50
- 2 Marcus alb(anesis) a. 30 nihil possidet
Catarinella u(xo)r a. 25
- 3 Radognius sca(vonus) a. 40 nihil possidet
Todera u(xo)r a. 35
Stepus fi(liu)s a. 16

Remanet predittis f(ocolari)bus 3

Die x^o ditti applicavj in Civi(ta)te Butonti

Ubi vacavj die xi^o et xii^o ditti

Butonti

- 1 Io(hanne)s de Cataro sca(vonus) a. 32 nihil possidet
Margarita u(xo)r a. 30
Dominicus fi(liu)s a. 10
Lucia fi(li) a. 7

- 2 Milo scijs de Montenegro sca(vonus) a. 45 sine uxore et nihil
possidet
Radichius fi(liu)s a. 20

- 3 Radus de Visceglia sca(vonus) a. 56 nihil possidet
Antonia u(ox)r a. 45
I(ohann)es Nic(olau)s fi(liu)s a. 20
Petrus fi(liu)s a. 15
Palmus fi(liu)s a. 12
Iarus fi(liu)s a. 9
Dominicus fi(liu)s a. 6
Michael fi(lius) a. 2

- 4 Lucas de Cataro sca(vonus) a. 39 nihil possidet
Margarita u(xo)r a. 35
Mara m(ate)r a. 50

- 5 Noviellus sca(vonus) a. 55 nihit possidet
Beata u(xo)r a. 50
Horatius fi(liu)s a. 20
Lucretia fi(li)a a. 14
Ang(eli)lla fi(li)a a. 10

- 6 Franc(iscu)s de Gala sca(vonus) a. 35 nihil possidet
Fiorita u(xo)r a. 33

- 7 Io(hann)es Ang(elu)s de Milo sca(vonus) a. 52 nihil possidet
Pasca u(xo)r a. 49

- Christofarus fi(liu)s a. 22
Isabella fi(li)a a. 13
Prudentia fi(li)a a. 9
- 8 Hugus de Cataro sca(vonus) a. 33 nihil possidet
 Catarina u(xo)r a. 28
- 9 Radus de Giorgio de Montenegro a. 35 nihil possidet
 Petrella u(xo)r a. 20
- 10 Lucas de Cataro sca(vonus) alter a. 40 nihil possidet
 Margarita u(xo)r a. 39
 Iela fi(li)a a. 12
 Catarina fi(li)a a. 10
- 11 Radus de Cataro sca(vonus) a. 36 nihil possidet
 Buccaua u(xo)r a. 33
 Marius fi(liu)s a. 13
 Catarina fi(lia) a. 9
- 12 Lucas fi(liu)s q(uondam) Raduano sca(vonus) a. 15 nihil possidet
 Helia fr(ate)r a. 12
 Pascarellus fr(ate)r a. 10
 Catarina m(ate)r a. 45
- 13 Radus de Pastrovichio sca(vonus) a. 45 nihil possidet
 Margarita u(xo)r a. 42
- 14 Ang(elu)s de Gioya sca(vonus) a. 60 nihil possidet
 Tomasu u(ox)r a. 55
 Bap(tis)ta a. 25
 Magdalena fi(li)a a. 20
- 15 Elias pastor sca(vonus) a. 55 nihil possidet
 Domenichella u(xo)r a. 50
- 16 Petrus de Ramundo de Aquavia sca(vonus) a. 50 nihil possidet
 Domenichella u(xo)r a. 45
 Fran(ciscu)s fi(liu)s a. 20
 Angelillus fi(liu)s a. 17

- Iarus fi(liu)s a. 12
Prudentia fi(li)a a. 18
- 17 Andreas de Cataro sca(vonus) a. 35 nihil possidet
Catarina u(xo)r a. 31
Iela m(ate)r a. 55
- 18 Hie(ronimu)s Ant(oniu)s de Stracza carta sca(vonus) a. 50 nihil possidet
Dom(iniche)lla u(xo)r a. 45
Iarus fi(liu)s a. 22
Petrus fi(liu)s a. 7
Ber(nardi)na a. 20
- 19 Lucas de Mo(n)tenigro sca(vonus) a. 45 nihil possidet
Lisa u(xo)r a. 40
Petrus fi(liu)s a. 13
Dominicus fi(liu)s a. 8
Marinus fi(liu)s a. 5
Prudentia fi(li)a a. 17
Pasca fi(li)a a. 12

Remanet predittis f(ocolari)bus 19

Die vii ditti applicavj in Civi(ta)te Melfitti
ubj vacavj die viii° ditti

Molfetta

- 1 Marcus sca(vonus) a. 45 nihil possidet
Iela u(xo)r a. 40
Gregorius fi(liu)s a. 14
Tomas fi(liu)s a. 16
- 2 Jo(hann)es Iurus sca(vonus) a. 22 nihit possidet
Toderam m(ate)r a. 40
- 3 Radus de Majna sca(vonus) a. 30 nihil possidet
Stana m(ate)r a. 50

- 4 Michael de Scibenico sca(vonus) a. 30 nihil possidet
Yela u(xo)r a. 25
- 5 Io(hann)es sca(vonus) a. 38 nihil possidet
Melicza u(ox)r a. 35
- 6 Privus de Ragusa sca(vonus) a. 35 nihil possidet
Iela u(xo)r a. 25
- 7 Lucas sca(vonus) a. 30 nihil possidet
Margarita u(xo)r a. 25
- 8 Io(hann)es sca(vonus) a. 37 nihil possidet
Catarina u(xo)r a. 22

Remanet preditti f(ocolari)bus 8

Slavenska (*schiaivoni*) kućanstva u nekim gradovima u sjevernom dijelu Barijske oblasti (*Terra di Bari*) godine 1553.

Postojanje slavenskih (*schiaivoni*) zajednica u Apuliji datira iz vremena prije 1000. godine, no u kasnom se srednjem vijeku njihova prisutnost povećala uslijed osmanskog napredovanja na Balkanu. Ipak, porezne isprave (*registri dei fuochi* – registri ognjišta iz Državnoga arhiva u Napulju) bilježe neka slavenska kućanstva. U ovom prilogu donosi se transkripcija popisa slavenskih (*schiaivoni*) obitelji u pet gradova u Barijskoj oblasti: Molfetta, Giovinazzo, Terlizzi, Bitonto i Ruvo di Puglia. Ondje sadržani podaci vrlo su zanimljivi i pružaju osnovu za daljnje studije.

Keywords: Slavic communities, *schiaivoni*, Terra di Bari, emigration, hearth tax registers.

Ključne riječi: slavenske zajednice, *schiaivoni*, Barijska oblast, iseljavanje, registri ognjišta.

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ZAVOD ZA HRVATSKU POVIJEST
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 **PF press**

ZAGREB 2018.

RADOVI ZAVODA ZA HRVATSKU POVIJEST
FILOZOFSKOGA FAKULTETA SVEUČILIŠTA U ZAGREBU

Knjiga 50, broj 2

Izdavač / Publisher

Zavod za hrvatsku povijest
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FF-press

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Časopis izlazi jedanput godišnje / The Journal is published once a year

Časopis je u digitalnom obliku dostupan na / The Journal in digital form is accessible at
Portal znanstvenih časopisa Republike Hrvatske „Hrčak“
<http://hrck.srce.hr/radovi-zhp>

Financijska potpora za tisak časopisa / The Journal is published with the support by
Ministarstvo znanosti, obrazovanja i športa Republike Hrvatske

Časopis je indeksiran u sljedećim bazama / The Journal is indexed in the following databases:
Directory of Open Access Journals, EBSCO, SCOPUS, ERIH PLUS, Emerging Sources Citation
Index - Web of Science

Naslovna stranica / Title page by
Iva Mandić

Grafičko oblikovanje i računalni slog / Graphic design and layout
Marko Maraković

Lektura / Language editors
Samanta Paronić (hrvatski / Croatian)
Dražen Nemet (engleski / English)

Tisak / Printed by
Tiskara Zelina, Sv. Ivan Zelina

Naklada / Issued
200 primjeraka / 200 copies

*Časopis je u digitalnom obliku dostupan na Portalu znanstvenih časopisa
Republike Hrvatske „Hrčak“ <http://hrcak.srce.hr/radovi-zhp>*

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